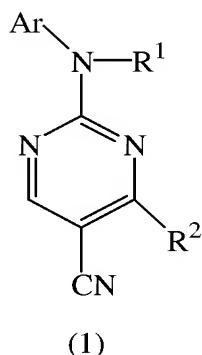


This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A compound of formula (1):



wherein

Ar is an optionally substituted aromatic or heteroaromatic group;

R¹ is a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched chain alkyl group;

R² is a -X¹-R³ group;

X¹ is a linker group selected from -C(O)-, -C(S)-, -S(O)-, -S(O)₂-, -N(C₁₋₆ alkyl)-, -C(R⁷)₂-, -CON(R⁷)-, -OC(O)N(R⁷)-, -CSN(R⁷)-, -N(R⁷)CO-, -N(R⁷)C(O)O-, -N(R⁷)CS-, -SON(R⁷)-, -SO₂N(R⁷)-, -N(R⁷)SO₂-, -N(R⁷)CON(R⁷)-, -N(R⁷)CSN(R⁷)-, -N(R⁷)SON(R⁷)-, and -N(R⁷)SO₂N(R⁷)-;

R⁷ is a hydrogen atom or C₁₋₆ alkyl group;

R³ is an optionally substituted aliphatic, cycloaliphatic, heteroaliphatic, heterocycloaliphatic, aromatic or heteroaromatic group;
~~and the salts, solvates, hydrates and N-oxides~~ or a salt or N-oxide thereof.

2. (original) A compound according to Claim 1 wherein R¹ is a hydrogen atom.
- 3-5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) A compound according to Claim 1 wherein Ar is a phenyl, pyridyl, indolyl, indazolyl, benzimidazolyl, benzothiazolyl, quinolyl, isoquinolyl or benzoxazolyl group each substituted by one, two or three -R⁴ or -Alk(R⁴)_m substituents;

~~in which~~ R⁴ is a halogen atom, or an amino (-NH₂), substituted amino, nitro, cyano, hydroxyl (-OH), substituted hydroxyl, formyl, carboxyl (-CO₂H), esterified carboxyl, thiol (-SH), substituted thiol, -COR⁵ [~~where R⁵ is a -Alk(R⁴)_m, aryl or heteroaryl group~~], -CSR⁵, -SO₃H, -SO₂R⁵, -SO₂NH₂, -SO₂NHR⁵, ~~-SO₂N[R⁵]₂-SO₂N(R⁵)₂~~, -CONH₂, -CSNH₂, -CONHR⁵, -CSNHR⁵, ~~-CON[R⁵]₂-CON(R⁵)₂, -CSN[R⁵]₂-CSN(R⁵)₂~~, -NHSO₂H, -NHSO₂R⁵, ~~-N[SO₂R⁵]₂-N(SO₂R⁵)₂~~, -NHSO₂NH₂, -NHSO₂NHR⁵, ~~-NHSO₂N[R⁵]₂-NHSO₂N(R⁵)₂~~, -NHCOR⁵, -NHCONH₂, -NHCONHR⁵, ~~-NHCON[R⁵]₂-NHCON(R⁵)₂~~, -NHCSR⁵, -NHC(O)OR⁵, or optionally substituted cycloaliphatic, hetero-cycloaliphatic, aryl or heteroaryl group;

R⁵ is a -Alk(R⁴)_m, aryl or heteroaryl group;

Alk is a straight or branched C₁₋₆ alkylene, C₂₋₆ alkenylene or C₂₋₆ alkynylene chain, optionally interrupted by one, two or three -O- or -S- atoms or groups selected from -S(O)-, -S(O)₂- ~~or~~ and -N(R⁶)- [~~where R⁶ is a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched chain C₁₋₆ alkyl group~~];

R⁶ is a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched chain C₁₋₆ alkyl group; and

m is zero or an integer 1, 2 or 3.

7. (original) A compound according to Claim 6 wherein Ar is a phenyl group substituted by one, two or three -R⁴ or -Alk(R⁴)_m substituents.

8. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of Claim 5 to Claim 7~~ claim 6 or claim 7 wherein at least one of -R⁴; and -Alk(R⁴)_m; ~~R^{4b} or Alk(R^{4b})_m~~ is a -X^{1a}(Alk^a)_pNR^{7a}R^{7b}) (~~where X^{1a} is a direct bond or a linker atom or group, Alk^a is as defined for Alk, p is zero or an integer 1 and R^{7a} and R^{7b} which may be the same or different is each a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched C₁₋₆ alkyl group~~), -X^{1a}(Alk^a)_pNHet¹ (~~where NHet¹ is an optionally substituted C₃₋₇ cyclicamino group optionally containing one or more O or S~~

~~atoms or -N(R⁶) [where R⁶ is a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched chain C₁₋₆alkyl group]] or -X^{1a}(Alk^a)_pAr² group (where Ar² is a nitrogen-containing heteroaromatic group);~~

X^{1a} is a direct bond or a linker group selected from -C(O)-, -C(S)-, -S(O)-, -S(O)₂-, -N(R⁷)-, -C(R⁷)₂-, -CON(R⁷)-, -OC(O)N(R⁷)-, -CSN(R⁷)-, -N(R⁷)CO-, -N(R⁷)C(O)O-, -N(R⁷)CS-, -SON(R⁷)-, -SO₂N(R⁷)-, -N(R⁷)SO₂-, -N(R⁷)CON(R⁷)-, -N(R⁷)CSN(R⁷)-, -N(R⁷)SON(R⁷)-, and -N(R⁷)SO₂N(R⁷)-;

Alk^a is a straight or branched C₁₋₆ alkylene, C₂₋₆ alkenylene or C₂₋₆ alkynylene chain, optionally interrupted by one, two or three -O- or -S- atoms or groups selected from -S(O)-, -S(O)₂- and -N(R⁶)-;

p is zero or an integer 1;

R^{7a} and R^{7b} are each independently a hydrogen atom or a straight or branched C₁₋₆alkyl group;

-NHet¹ is an optionally substituted C₃₋₇cyclicamino group optionally containing one or more -O- or -S- atoms or -N(R⁶); and

Ar² is a nitrogen containing heteroaromatic group.

9-10. (canceled)

11. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Claim 1 together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, excipients or diluents.